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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 17 (c)
Macroeconomic policy questions: external debt sustainability and development

Argentina:* draft resolution

External debt sustainability and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/203 of 23 December 2003, 59/223 of 22 December 2004, 60/187 of 22 December 2005, 61/188 of 20 December 2006, 62/186 of 19 December 2007, 63/206 of 19 December 2008, 64/191 of 21 December 2009 and 65/144 of 20 December 2010,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000,[1]

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development and its outcome document[3] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[4]

Recalling also the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[5]

Recalling further the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[6]

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[4] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[5] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[6] See resolution 65/1.

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Recalling its resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003,

Recalling also its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Recalling further the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and its outcome document,[7]

Emphasizing that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, underlining the importance of debt sustainability and effective debt management to the efforts to achieve national development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and acknowledging that sovereign debt crises tend to be costly and disruptive, including for employment and productive investment, and tend to be followed by cuts in public spending, including on health and education, affecting in particular the poor and vulnerable,

Reaffirming that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies, including in the area of debt management, cannot be overemphasized for the achievement of sustainable development, and recognizing that national efforts, including to achieve development goals and to maintain debt sustainability, should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty,

Reaffirming also that multilateral institutions, including entities within the United Nations system and other relevant organizations, should continue to play an important role, given their respective mandates, in assisting countries in achieving and maintaining debt sustainability,

Reiterating that debt sustainability depends on a confluence of many factors at the international and national levels, and emphasizing that country-specific circumstances and the impact of external shocks, such as those derived from the world financial and economic crisis, should continue to be taken into account in debt sustainability analyses,

Expressing deep concern over the adverse impact of the ongoing world financial and economic crisis on developing countries, which highlighted long-standing systemic fragilities and inequalities, stressing that the recovery has been threatened by new circumstances, including turbulence in the global financial markets and widespread fiscal strains, and that the systemic problems facing the global economy have to be resolved, including through the full accomplishment of the reform of the global financial system and architecture, recognizing that any new shock or even a slow recovery will have negative effects on debt sustainability, and confirming that unsustainable debt is a global problem,

Recognizing the importance of efforts undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in response to the challenges posed by the ongoing world financial and economic crisis faced by many developing countries, and

[7] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.II.A.1).

acknowledging that the impacts on development of the crisis continue, entail the possibility of undermining the progress made towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and threaten debt sustainability in developing countries through, inter alia, the consequences on the real economy and government revenue and the need to increase borrowing to mitigate the negative impacts of the crisis,

Recognizing also the important role on a case-by-case basis of debt relief, including debt cancellation and debt restructuring, as debt crisis prevention and management tools for mitigating the impact of the world financial and economic crisis in developing countries,

Recognizing further the role of private capital flows in mobilizing financing for development, expressing concern about the risks posed by excessive short-term private capital inflows to many developing countries, including to their debt sustainability, and encouraging further review of the benefits and disadvantages of capital controls and the macroprudential measures available to mitigate the impact of volatile capital flows with a view to limiting unproductive large capital flows which may lead to future currency crises,

Expressing concern that some low-income and least developed countries are facing increased challenges in servicing their debt,

Noting with appreciation that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative and bilateral donors have provided substantial debt relief to thirty-two countries that have reached the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, which has considerably reduced their debt vulnerability and enabled them to increase their investments in social services, while acknowledging with concern that some post-completion point countries remain classified as being at high risk of debt distress and need to avoid rebuilding unsustainable debt burdens,

Convinced that enhanced market access for goods and services of export interest to developing countries contributes significantly to debt sustainability in those countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Emphasizes* the special importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries in order to promote their economic growth and development;

3. *Stresses* the importance of responsible lending and borrowing, emphasizes that creditors and debtors must share responsibility for preventing unsustainable debt situations, and encourages Member States, the Bretton Woods institutions, the regional development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders to pursue the ongoing discussions, inter alia, within the framework of the initiative of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to promote responsible sovereign lending and borrowing, taking into account additional work being undertaken on this issue;

4. *Recognizes* the need for capacity-building, in particular of borrowers, for them to be able to conduct their own debt sustainability analyses in order to

[8] A/66/164.

generate legitimate borrowing and lending decisions to help maintain sustainable levels of debt, acknowledges the role played by the Debt Sustainability Framework for low-income countries, jointly developed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to guide borrowing and lending decisions, and calls for a review of the Framework, with the full engagement of borrower Governments, in an open and transparent manner;

5. *Reiterates* that no single indicator should be used to make definitive judgements about a country's debt sustainability, and, in this regard, while acknowledging the need to use transparent and comparable indicators, invites the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in their assessment of debt sustainability, to continue to take into account the fundamental changes caused by, inter alia, natural disasters, conflicts and changes in global growth prospects or in the terms of trade, especially for commodity-dependent developing countries, as well as by the impact of developments in financial markets, and to provide information on this issue to Member States, with a view to identifying their structural weaknesses;

6. *Recognizes* that the long-term sustainability of debt depends on, inter alia, economic growth, mobilization of domestic resources, increased grants and concessional sources of development financing, access to export markets, responsible debt management, sound macroeconomic policies, transparent and effective regulatory frameworks, technical assistance to strengthen debt management capacities in developing countries, success in overcoming structural development problems, and hence, on the creation of an enabling international environment that is conducive to development;

7. *Also recognizes* the enormity, the persistence and the multidimensional nature of the world financial and economic crisis, which caused a sharp deterioration of the debt ratios in many countries, recognizes the risks posed to the debt sustainability associated with slower or negative global economic growth and the euro zone debt crisis, calls for collective action to stem their impact on developing countries through different channels so as to reduce the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis, takes note in this regard of the additional resources made available during and since the crisis through the International Monetary Fund and the multilateral development banks, and calls for additional and continued provision of concessional and grant-based financing to low-income countries and developing countries in risk of debt distress to enable them to respond to the consequences of the crisis;

8. *Further recognizes* the roles of the United Nations and the international financial institutions in accordance with their respective mandates, and encourages them to continue to support global efforts towards sustained, inclusive and equitable growth, sustainable development and the external debt sustainability of developing countries, including through continued monitoring of global financial flows and their implications in this regard;

9. *Emphasizes* the need for coordinated policies aimed at fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, reaffirms that new and ongoing programmes of the International Monetary Fund should not contain unwarranted procyclical conditionalities, calls for the continued review of the new lending facilities, and urges the multilateral development banks to move forward on flexible, concessional, fast-disbursing and front-loaded assistance that will substantially and

quickly assist developing countries facing financing gaps in their efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, taking into consideration the individual absorptive capacities and debt sustainability of those countries;

10. *Notes* the provision by the International Monetary Fund of interest relief to low-income countries in the form of zero-interest payments on financing from concessional lending facilities until the end of 2011, and encourages the Fund to consider extending its concessional loan facilities for low-income countries beyond 2011;

11. *Also notes* that developing countries can seek to negotiate, as a last resort, on a case-by-case basis and through existing frameworks, agreements on temporary debt standstills between debtors and creditors in order to help mitigate the adverse impacts of the crisis and stabilize macroeconomic developments;

12. *Further notes* the progress made under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, while expressing concern that some countries have yet to reach decision or completion points, calls for the full and timely implementation of those Initiatives and for continued support to the remaining eligible countries in completing the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative process, and encourages all parties, both creditors and debtors, to fulfil their commitments as rapidly as possible in order to complete the debt relief process;

13. *Calls for* the review of the implementation and the impact of debt relief initiatives to better understand why countries did not maintain sustainable debt levels, and further calls for the design of clear and predictable strategies to address the persisting debt problems of developing countries post-Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, including for developing countries facing unsustainable debt burdens which have not benefited from debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative;

14. *Underlines* the fact that heavily indebted poor countries eligible for debt relief will not be able to enjoy its full benefits unless all creditors, both public and private, contribute their fair share and become involved in the international debt resolution mechanisms to ensure the debt sustainability of those countries, invites creditors, both private and public, that are not yet fully participating in debt relief initiatives to substantially increase their participation, including through providing comparable treatment to the extent possible to debtor countries that have concluded sustainable debt relief agreements with creditors, and invites the international financing institutions and the donor community to continue to provide adequate and sufficiently concessional financing;

15. *Stresses* that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, economic development and the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard urges countries to direct the resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards those objectives, according to their national priorities and strategies;

16. *Encourages* donor countries to take steps to ensure that resources provided for debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and the

Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative do not detract from official development assistance resources intended to be available for developing countries;

17. *Notes with concern* that some low- and middle-income developing countries that are not included in existing debt relief initiatives may have large debt burdens that may create constraints on mobilizing the resources needed to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, which confirms the need to extend the sunset clause to make it applicable for those countries or to design new debt relief initiatives for them on a case-by-case basis;

18. *Encourages* the Paris Club, in dealing with the debt of low- and middle-income debtor countries that are not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, to take into account their medium-term debt sustainability in addition to their financing gaps, and notes with appreciation the Evian approach of the Paris Club in providing different terms of debt relief in order to respond to the specific needs of debtor countries while preserving debt cancellation for heavily indebted poor countries;

19. *Stresses* the need to significantly address the debt problems of middle-income developing countries, and in this regard, while stressing the importance of the Evian approach of the Paris Club as a practical means of addressing bilateral official debt, encourages the consideration of medium- and long-term sustainability as well as new approaches to deal with non-Paris Club debt;

20. *Also stresses* the need for the international community to remain vigilant in monitoring the debt situation of the least developed countries and to continue to take effective measures, preferably within existing frameworks, to address the debt problem of those countries, including through the cancellation of the multilateral and bilateral debt owed by least developed countries to creditors, both public and private, and also to provide specific debt relief measures for least developed countries which are not heavily indebted poor countries, on a case-by-case basis;

21. *Welcomes* the efforts of and calls upon the international community to provide flexibility, and stresses the need to continue those efforts in helping post-conflict developing countries, especially those that are heavily indebted and poor, to achieve initial reconstruction for economic and social development;

22. *Also welcomes* the efforts of and invites creditors to provide flexibility to developing countries affected by natural disasters so as to allow them to address their debt concerns, while taking into account their specific situations and needs;

23. *Calls for* the consideration of additional measures and initiatives aimed at ensuring long-term debt sustainability through increased grant-based and other forms of concessional financing, the cancellation of 100 per cent of the eligible official multilateral and bilateral debt of heavily indebted poor countries and, where appropriate and on a case-by-case basis, significant debt relief or restructuring for developing countries with an unsustainable debt burden that are not part of the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative;

24. *Invites* donor countries, taking into account country-specific debt sustainability analyses, to continue their efforts to increase bilateral grants to developing countries, which could contribute to debt sustainability in the medium to long term, and recognizes the need for countries to be able to promote employment

and productive investment and to invest in, inter alia, health and education while maintaining debt sustainability;

25. *Calls for* the intensification of efforts to prevent and mitigate the prevalence and cost of debt crises by enhancing international financial mechanisms for crisis prevention and resolution, encourages the private sector to cooperate in this regard, and invites creditors and debtors to further explore, where appropriate and on a mutually agreed, transparent and case-by-case basis, the use of new and improved debt instruments and innovative mechanisms such as debt swaps, including debt for equity in Millennium Development Goal projects, as well as debt indexation instruments;

26. *Also calls for* the consideration of enhanced approaches to sovereign debt restructuring and debt resolution mechanisms, with the broad participation of creditors and debtors, the comparable treatment of all creditors and an important role for the Bretton Woods institutions and other relevant organizations within the United Nations system, and in this regard calls upon all countries to promote and contribute to the discussions, including within the United Nations and other appropriate forums, on the need for and feasibility of a more structured framework for international cooperation in this area;

27. *Further calls for* the establishment of a United Nations working group with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including the multilateral financial institutions, to examine options for enhanced approaches to debt restructuring and resolution mechanisms that take into account the multiple dimensions of debt sustainability;

28. *Notes* the changing composition of the sovereign debt of some countries, which has shifted increasingly from official to commercial borrowing and from external to domestic public debt, although for most low-income countries external finance is still largely official, also notes that the levels of domestic debt and the significantly increased number of creditors, both official and private, could create other challenges for macroeconomic management and public debt sustainability, and stresses the need to address the implications of these changes, including through improved data collection and analysis;

29. *Recognizes* concerns about vulture fund litigation, and in this regard also recognizes that debtor countries experience difficulties in obtaining comparable treatment from other creditors, as required by the standard clause included in Paris Club agreements;

30. *Stresses* the need to increase information-sharing, transparency and the use of objective criteria in the construction and evaluation of debt scenarios, including an assessment of domestic public and private debt, in order to ensure the achievement of development goals, recognizes that credit-rating agencies play a significant role in the provision of information, including the assessment of corporate and sovereign risks, and may encourage countries to pursue policies focused on short-term concerns of portfolio investors rather than in their long-term development needs, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to conduct a special multi-stakeholders consultation on credit-rating agencies with a view to improving their modelling risk and to continue to monitor and report upon the oversight of credit-rating agencies when preparing his report on the implementation of the present resolution;

31. *Invites* the international community to continue efforts to increase support, including financial and technical assistance, for institutional capacity-building in developing countries to enhance sustainable debt management as an integral part of national development strategies, including by promoting transparent and accountable debt management systems and negotiation and renegotiation capacities and through supporting legal advice in relation to tackling external debt litigation and debt data reconciliation between creditors and debtors so that debt sustainability may be achieved and maintained;

32. *Also invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, in cooperation with the regional commissions, regional development banks and other relevant multilateral financial institutions and stakeholders, to continue and intensify cooperation in respect of capacity-building activities in developing countries in the area of debt management and debt sustainability;

33. *Encourages* further improvement of the mutual exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, on borrowing and lending among all creditors and borrowers;

34. *Acknowledges* that timely and comprehensive data on the level and composition of debt are a condition necessary for, inter alia, building early warning systems aimed at limiting the impact of debt crises, calls for debtor and creditor countries to intensify their efforts to collect data, and calls for donors to consider increasing their support for technical cooperation programmes aimed at increasing the statistical capacity of developing countries in that regard;

35. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions and the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those related to the question of the external debt sustainability of developing countries;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the external debt situation of developing countries;

37. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt sustainability and development".

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 23 (c)
Eradication of poverty and other development issues: human resources development

Argentina:* draft resolution

Human resources development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/196 of 18 December 1997, 54/211 of 22 December 1999, 56/189 of 21 December 2001, 58/207 of 23 December 2003, 60/211 of 22 December 2005, 62/207 of 19 December 2007 and 64/218 of 21 December 2009,

Stressing that human resources development lies at the heart of economic, social and environmental development and that health and education are at the core of human resources development,

Stressing also that human resources development is key to the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to expand opportunities for people, in particular for the most vulnerable groups of the population,

Welcoming the considerable efforts made over the years, yet recognizing that many countries continue to face formidable challenges in developing a sufficient pool of human resources capable of meeting national economic and social needs and that the formulation and implementation of effective human resources strategies often require resources and capacities not always available in developing countries,

Stressing that human resources development is even more critical in view of the current global challenges, including the ongoing global financial and economic crisis, in order to tackle the negative effects of the global crisis and set the basis for inclusive and sustainable growth and recovery,

Recognizing that the adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis continue to diminish the ability of many countries, especially developing countries, to cope with and address human resources development challenges and to

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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formulate and implement effective strategies for poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Acknowledging the important nexus between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transition and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits as well as challenges to the global community, and stressing that the brain drain continues to be a severe problem in many developing and transitioning countries, undermining efforts in the area of human resources development,

Stressing that Governments have the primary responsibility for defining and implementing appropriate policies for human resources development and the need for greater support from the international community for the national efforts of developing countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Calls upon* Member States to place human resources development at the core of economic and social development and develop short-, medium- and long-term strategies to effectively enhance their human resources capacities, as educated, healthy, capable, productive and flexible workforces are the foundation for achieving inclusive, equitable and sustainable economic growth and development,

3. *Stresses* the need for Member States to emphasize and integrate human resources development into national development strategies, including national development policies and strategies to eradicate poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, in order to address structural and multidimensional challenges to enhancing national productive capacities and to ensure that human resources development implications are taken into account by all national development stakeholders;

4. *Also stresses* that investment in human resources development should be an integral part of national development policies and strategies, and in this regard calls for the adoption of policies to facilitate investment focused on physical and social infrastructure and education, health and capacity development, in particular the upgrading of skills and vocational training in areas such as science and technology, including information and communications technology, and on sustainable development;

5. *Encourages* Member States to continue to strengthen social protection systems and to adopt policies that strengthen existing safety nets, protect vulnerable groups and boost domestic consumption and production especially to cushion the effect of the crisis and prevent people from falling into poverty, acknowledges in this regard that many developing countries lack the necessary financial resources and capacity to implement such countercyclical measures, and recognizes the need for continued mobilization of additional domestic and international resources, as appropriate;

6. *Stresses* that human resources development strategies should include measures to reduce unemployment and underemployment among young men and

[1] A/66/206.

women, who are disproportionately affected by job-poor recovery, and to integrate underutilized human resources in the labour market to make it more productive, and in doing so, make efforts to reduce barriers to employment, particularly gender barriers, including by providing incentives for recruiting, retaining and retooling young workers, assistance in finding jobs and matching jobs to skills and vocational and on-the-job training, and promoting youth entreprencurship;

7. *Stresses* the need for Member States to retain and further enhance national human resources by boosting job-rich recovery, including by adopting policies and incentives to enhance labour productivity and stimulate private investment and strengthening the role of labour institutions and regulations in preserving jobs and protecting workers in vulnerable jobs in informal sectors;

8. *Emphasizes* the need to address the interlinkages among human resources development, energy and food security, agriculture and rural development, and encourages Member States to strengthen capacity in agriculture and rural development;

9. *Stresses* that sustainable development is dependent, inter alia, on healthy human resources, calls upon Member States to continue their efforts to strengthen national health systems, urges the further strengthening of international cooperation in the area of health, inter alia, through the exchange of best practices in the areas of health system strengthening, access to medicines, training of health personnel, transfer of technology and production of affordable, safe and effective medicine, and in this regard stresses that international cooperation and assistance, in particular external funding, need to become more predictable and to be better aligned with national priorities and channelled to recipient countries in ways that strengthen national health systems;

10. *Calls upon* the international community, including the entities of the United Nations system, to support the efforts of developing countries to address the adverse effects of the growing epidemic of non-communicable diseases and of HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases on their human resources;

11. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations entities to support national efforts to build institutional capacities to address long-term national human resources development needs in addition to providing training to individuals;

12. *Calls upon* the international community, including the private sector and relevant civil society actors, to assist developing countries in the implementation of national human resources development strategies, and encourages the international community to provide financial resources, capacity-building, technical assistance and transfer of technology, as appropriate and on mutually agreed terms;

13. *Encourages* efforts by Member States and the international community to promote a balanced, coherent and comprehensive approach to international migration and development, in particular by building partnerships and ensuring coordinated action to develop capacities, including for the management of migration, and in this regard reiterates the need to consider innovative measures to maximize the benefits of migration while minimizing the negative effects of the migration of highly skilled as well as low-skilled workers from developing countries;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including an assessment of the contribution of science, technological knowledge and innovation to human resources development in developing countries;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Human resources development".

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Sixty-sixth session
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Agenda item 18
Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference

Argentina:* draft resolution

Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and its resolutions 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, 57/250, 57/272 and 57/273 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 58/230 of 23 December 2003, 59/225 of 22 December 2004, 60/188 of 22 December 2005, 61/191 of 20 December 2006, 62/187 of 19 December 2007, 63/239 of 24 December 2008, 64/193 of 21 December 2009 and 65/145 of 20 December 2010, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions 2002/34 of 26 July 2002, 2003/47 of 24 July 2003, 2004/64 of 16 September 2004, 2006/45 of 28 July 2006, 2007/30 of 27 July 2007, 2008/14 of 24 July 2008, 2009/30 of 31 July 2009, 2010/26 of 23 July 2010 and 2011/38 of 28 July 2011,

Recalling also the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development and its outcome document,[1]

Recalling further the High-Level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[2]

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[2] See resolution 65/1.

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Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[3]

Taking note also of the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in New York on 10 and 11 March 2011,[4]

Recalling the progress report and the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group of the General Assembly to follow up on the issues contained in the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,[5]

Expressing deep concern about the adverse impact of the ongoing world financial and economic crisis on developing countries, which highlighted long-standing systemic fragilities and inequalities, stressing that the recovery has been threatened by new circumstances, including turbulence in the global financial markets and widespread fiscal strains, and that the systemic problems facing the global economy have to be resolved, including through the full accomplishment of the reform of the international financial system and architecture,

Recognizing that the world economy is entering a dangerous new phase, characterized by unresolved structural fragilities, sharply falling confidence and high risk, and that, as a result, most developing countries are facing more challenges than at any point since the 2008 financial crisis,

Deeply concerned about the additional negative impacts that are part of the second wave of the current world financial and economic crisis and that also pose a serious threat to developing countries in the years ahead,

1. *Reaffirms* the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[6] in its entirety, its integrity and its holistic approach, and recalls the resolve to take concrete action to implement the Monterrey Consensus and to address the challenges of financing for development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

2. *Also reaffirms* the importance of ensuring appropriate and effective follow-up to the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, as reaffirmed in the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development;[7]

3. *Recognizes* that national efforts should be complemented by supportive global programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty, and also

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[3] A/66/329.

[4] A/66/75-S/2011/87.

[5] A/64/884.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[7] Resolution 63/239, annex.

reaffirms that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized for the achievement of development;

4. *Also recognizes* that the mobilization of domestic and international resources and an enabling domestic and international environment are key drivers for development;

5. *Further recognizes* that mobilizing financial resources for development is central to strengthening the global partnership for development, which is the centrepiece of international cooperation for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the years ahead, as reaffirmed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8] the Monterrey Consensus, the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[9] the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[10] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[7] and the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals";[2]

6. *Expresses deep concern* about the ongoing adverse impacts of the global financial and economic crisis on development, including on the capacity of developing countries to mobilize resources for development, recognizes that there is a need to promote the recovery, and acknowledges that an effective response to the impacts of the crisis requires timely implementation of all development commitments, including existing aid commitments;

7. *Emphasizes* that the financial and economic crisis has demonstrated the need for more effective government involvement so as to ensure an appropriate balance between the market and the public interest, and recognizes the need to better regulate financial markets;

8. *Recognizes* that a dynamic, inclusive, well-functioning and socially responsible private sector is a valuable instrument for generating economic growth and reducing poverty;

9. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so to meet the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance; including 0.15 per cent to 0.2 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to least developed countries, and considers that, in order to meet agreed commitments and targets, it is important that developed countries establish clear and transparent timetables within their national budget allocation processes to reach the level of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance, as urgently as possible, taking into account that the 2010 deadline was not fulfilled, and 0.7 per cent by 2015, at the latest;

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[8] See resolution 55/2.

[9] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[10] See resolution 60/1.

10. *Reaffirms* the need for new and additional resources, inter alia, short-term liquidity and long-term development financing and grants, to be made available to developing countries to be utilized towards an adequate response to the adverse effects of the financial and economic crisis, in line with their development priorities, and in that regard urges developed countries to dedicate a percentage of their stimulus packages to provide additional financial assistance to developing countries;

11. *Underlines* that aid flows to all developing countries should be more effective, sustainable, predictable, accountable, concessional and conditionality-free, in particular aid flows to the most vulnerable and least developed countries, as well as those to adequately support the efforts of middle-income countries and low-income countries to tackle their specific development challenges;

12. *Decides* to convene a high-level event in 2012 on the impact of the world financial crises on the financing of social development, as a dialogue on current global challenges, and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to take the steps necessary to organize the event;

13. *Considers* that innovative mechanisms of financing should be voluntary and should aim to effectively mobilize resources that are stable and predictable, should complement and not be a substitute for traditional sources of financing, in particular official development assistance, and that such financing should be disbursed in accordance with the priorities of developing countries and should not unduly burden those countries;

14. *Takes note* of the ongoing discussions on innovative mechanisms of financing for development, and decides to convene a meeting on innovative mechanisms of financing for development, during its sixty-sixth session with a view to addressing the findings and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on innovative mechanisms of financing for development,[11] including key issues, inter alia, additionality, the fragmentation of disbursements, monitoring, reporting mechanisms, governance and the definition of innovative financing, as well as the concern that some of the resources raised through innovative financing are currently accounted for as official development assistance, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the meeting at the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

15. *Recognizes* the important role played by special drawing rights allocations in increasing global liquidity, and contributing to global stability, equity and economic resilience, and in this regard encourages a further examination to be undertaken urgently of the role of increased issuances of special drawing rights in the expansion of liquidity and the promotion of development;

16. *Also recognizes* that special drawing rights allocations helped to increase global liquidity in response to the global financial and economic crises, and in this regard calls for a new and significant special drawing rights allocation at the beginning of the upcoming base period, to meet liquidity needs and promote development, and also calls for regular allocations of special drawing rights to be undertaken;

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[11] A/66/334.

17. *Emphasizes* the great importance of a timely, effective, comprehensive and durable solution to the debt problems of developing countries, and in that regard recognizes that debt financing and relief can be an important source of capital for economic growth and development, including for middle-income countries whose debt levels put their sustainability at risk;

18. *Also emphasizes* that debt sustainability is essential for underpinning growth, underlines the importance of debt sustainability and effective debt management for efforts to achieve national development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and acknowledges that sovereign debt crises tend to be costly and disruptive, including for employment and productive investments, and tend to be followed by cuts in public spending, including on health and education, that affect in particular the poor and vulnerable;

19. *Encourages* developed countries to allocate new and additional resources to assist developing countries in coping with the consequences of the crisis, including through concessional and grant-based financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, agreements between debtors and creditors on temporary debt standstills, and enhanced technical assistance and capacity-building in debt management, debt negotiation and renegotiation, in order to achieve and maintain debt sustainability;

20. *Notes* that foreign direct investment is a major source of financing for development, and in this regard calls upon developed countries to continue to devise source-country measures to encourage and facilitate the flow of foreign direct investment, inter alia, through the provision of export credits and other lending instruments, risk guarantees and business development services;

21. *Reaffirms* that international trade is an engine for development and sustained economic growth, and also reaffirms the critical role that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can play in stimulating economic growth and development worldwide, thereby benefiting all countries at all stages of development;

22. *Stresses* the need to resist all protectionist measures and tendencies, particularly by developed countries, that are affecting developing countries, including tariff, non-tariff and other barriers to trade, in particular agricultural subsidies, and to rectify any such measures already taken, recognizing the right for developing countries to fully utilize their policy space consistent with World Trade Organization commitments, and calls upon the World Trade Organization and other relevant bodies, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue monitoring protectionist measures and to assess their impact on developing countries;

23. *Underlines* that the ongoing global financial and economic crisis has further highlighted the urgent need for a substantive and comprehensive reform of the international economic and financial system and architecture to address their democratic deficit by further enhancing the voice and participation of developing countries, including with regard to policies, mandates, scope and governance, not only to better enable them to respond to and prevent financial and economic emergencies, but also to effectively promote development and equitably serve the needs of all Member States, particularly developing countries;

24. *Stresses* that international financial institutions, in particular, must have a clear development orientation, and calls upon all Member States to participate in an open, inclusive and transparent dialogue on a new international economic and financial system and architecture;

25. *Recognizes* the importance of equity and transparency in the international financial, monitoring and trading systems, and of the full and effective participation of developing countries in global decision-making and norm-setting;

26. *Stresses* that the crisis has also underlined the need to address major failures such as the lack of proper regulation, supervision and monitoring of the financial sector and the lack of early warning mechanisms, as well as the asymmetry between developing and developed countries in their abilities to derive economic benefits from the global economy;

27. *Underlines* the important role of the United Nations development system in advancing development and in protecting development gains in accordance with national strategies and priorities, including progress towards achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, threatened by the ongoing economic crisis;

28. *Reiterates* the invitation to the regional economic commissions to continue producing technical advice and analysis, including recommendations on global financial, economic and systemic issues, to be made available to Member States, which will contribute to the follow-up of the mandates of the major conferences on finance and development;

29. *Acknowledges* the efforts undertaken to strengthen the financing for development follow-up process, and underlines the fact that the modalities of the process should be reviewed, as appropriate, in accordance with the provisions contained in paragraph 30 of General Assembly resolution 65/145;

30. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to initiate consultations with Member States during the sixty-sixth session of the Assembly, with a view to holding the review conference on financing for development in 2013;

31. *Reiterates its appeal* to Member States and other potential donors to consider contributing generously to the Trust Fund for the Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, which would facilitate a strengthened and more effective intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up;

32. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcome of the 2002 International Conference on Financing for Development and the 2008 Review Conference", and requests the Secretary-General to submit, under that item, an annual analytical assessment of the status of implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, and of the present resolution, which is to be prepared in full collaboration with the major institutional stakeholders, and to include concrete proposals on the further strengthening of the financing for development follow-up process for consideration by Member States.

United Nations A/C.2/66/L.12

General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 23 (b)
Eradication of poverty and other development issues: women in development

Argentina:* draft resolution

Women in development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/195 of 18 December 1997, 54/210 of 22 December 1999, 56/188 of 21 December 2001, 58/206 of 23 December 2003, 59/248 of 22 December 2004, 60/210 of 22 December 2005, 62/206 of 19 December 2007 and 64/217 of 21 December 2009, and all its other resolutions on the integration of women in development, and the relevant resolutions and agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, including the Declaration adopted at its forty-ninth session,[1]

Reaffirming the Beijing Declaration[2] and Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[4]

Reaffirming also the commitments to gender equality and the advancement of women made at the Millennium Summit,[5] the 2005 World Summit[6] and other major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, and reaffirming further that their full, effective and accelerated implementation are integral to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/2005/27 and Corr.1), chap. I, sect. A.

[2] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[5] See resolution 55/2.

[6] See resolution 60/1.

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Reaffirming further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[5] which affirms that the equal rights and opportunities of women and men must be assured, and calls for, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women as being effective in and essential to eradicating poverty and hunger, combating diseases and stimulating development that is truly sustainable,

Recalling the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development[7] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[8] the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,[9] the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development[10] and the outcomes of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries[11] and the high-level meeting on Africa's development needs,[12]

Welcoming the full operationalization of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on 1 January 2011,

Noting the importance of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular its funds and programmes, and the specialized agencies, in facilitating the advancement of women in development,

Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations conferences, and that investing in the development of women and girls has a multiplier effect, in particular on productivity, efficiency and sustained and inclusive economic growth, in all sectors of the economy, especially in key areas such as agriculture, industry and services,

Recognizing that access to basic affordable health care, preventive health-care information and the highest standard of health, including in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, is critical to women's economic advancement, that lack of economic empowerment and independence increases women's vulnerability to a range of negative consequences, including the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS, and that the neglect of women's full enjoyment of human rights severely limits their opportunities in public and private life, including opportunities for education and for economic and political empowerment,

Reaffirming the need to eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education by the earliest possible date and at all levels by 2015, and reaffirming that equal access to education and training at all levels, in particular in business, trade, administration, information and communications technology and other new technologies, and fulfilment of the need to eliminate gender inequalities at all levels, are essential for gender equality, the empowerment of women and poverty eradication

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[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[9] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[10] Resolution 63/303, annex.

[11] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.II.A.1), chaps. I and II.

[12] See resolution 63/1.

and to allow women's full and equal contribution to, and equal opportunity to benefit from, development,

Reaffirming also the significant contributions that women make to the economy, that women are key contributors to the economy and to combating poverty and inequalities through both remunerated and unremunerated work at home, in the community and in the workplace, and that the empowerment of women is a critical factor in the eradication of poverty,

Recognizing that the difficult socio-economic conditions that exist in many developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, have contributed to the feminization of poverty,

Expressing deep concern over the disproportionate negative impact on women of the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the ongoing world financial and economic crisis, the volatile energy prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by climate change,

Recognizing, in this context, the importance of respect for all human rights, including the right to development, and of a national and international environment that promotes, inter alia, justice, gender equality, equity, civil and political participation and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights and fundamental freedoms for the advancement and empowerment of women,

Bearing in mind the challenges and obstacles to changing discriminatory attitudes and gender stereotypes, which perpetuate discrimination against women and stereotypic roles of men and women, and stressing that challenges and obstacles remain in the implementation of international standards and norms to address the inequality between men and women,

Recognizing that poverty eradication and the achievement and preservation of peace are mutually reinforcing, and recognizing also that peace is inextricably linked to equality between women and men and to development,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on integrating a gender perspective into national development strategies;[13]

2. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, and all sectors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as all women and men, to fully commit themselves and to intensify their contributions to the implementation of the Beijing Declaration[2] and Platform for Action[3] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[4]

3. *Recognizes* the mutually reinforcing links between gender equality and poverty eradication and the achievement of all of the Millennium Development Goals, as well as the need to elaborate and implement, where appropriate, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, comprehensive gender-sensitive poverty eradication strategies that address social, structural and macroeconomic issues;

4. *Emphasizes* the need to link policies on economic and social development to ensure that all people, including those in poor and vulnerable groups, benefit from inclusive economic growth and development, in accordance

[13] A/66/219.

with the goals of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[7] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development;[9]

5. *Urges* Member States, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to accelerate their efforts, and provide adequate resources, to increase the voice and full and equal participation of women in all decision-making bodies at the highest levels of government and in the governance structures of international organizations, including through eliminating gender stereotyping in appointments and promotions, to build women's capacity as agents of change and to empower them to participate actively and effectively in the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national development, poverty eradication and environmental policies, strategies and programmes;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to continue to increase, as appropriate, the participation of civil society, including women's organizations, in Government decision-making in national development policy areas;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the adoption by Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of appropriate measures to identify and address the negative impacts of the multiple interrelated and mutually exacerbating current global crises, in particular the ongoing world financial and economic crisis, the volatile energy prices, the food crisis and the challenges posed by multiple climate-change crises, on women and girls, and of maintaining adequate levels of funding for the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women;

8. *Also stresses* the importance of the creation by Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders of a favourable and conducive national and international environment in all areas of life for the effective integration of women in development, and of their undertaking and disseminating a gender analysis of policies and programmes related to macroeconomic stability, structural reform, taxation, investments, including foreign direct investment, and all relevant sectors of the economy;

9. *Urges* the donor community, Member States, international organizations, including the United Nations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and other stakeholders to strengthen the focus and impact of development assistance targeting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls through gender mainstreaming, the funding of targeted activities and enhanced dialogue between donors and partners, and also to strengthen the mechanisms needed to measure effectively the resources allocated to incorporating gender perspectives in all areas of development assistance;

10. *Urges* Member States to incorporate a gender perspective, commensurate with gender equality goals, into the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national development strategies, to ensure alignment between national action plans on gender equality and national development strategies, and to encourage the involvement of men and boys in the promotion of gender equality, and in this regard calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts to develop methodologies and tools and to promote capacity-building and evaluation;

11. *Encourages* Member States to ensure inclusive and more effective participation of national mechanisms for gender equality and women's empowerment in formulating national development strategies, including strategies aimed at eradicating poverty and reducing inequalities, and calls upon the United Nations system to support national efforts in this regard;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to strengthen capacities for gender mainstreaming by allocating adequate financial and human resources within line ministries, establishing and/or strengthening dedicated gender equality and empowerment of women, and providing capacity development for technical staff, and developing tools and guidelines;

13. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and implement legislation and policies to promote the reconciliation of work and family responsibilities, including through increased flexibility in working arrangements, such as part-time work and the facilitation of breastfeeding for working mothers, to provide care facilities for children and other dependants, and to ensure that both women and men have access to maternity or paternity, parental and other forms of leave and are not discriminated against when availing themselves of such benefits;

14. *Expresses deep concern* about the pervasiveness of violence against women and girls, reiterates the need to further intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, and recognizes that violence against women and girls is one of the obstacles to the achievement of the objectives of equality, development and peace and that women's poverty and lack of political, social and economic empowerment, as well as their marginalization, may result from their exclusion from social policies for and the benefits of sustainable development and can place them at increased risk of violence;

15. *Encourages* Governments, the private sector, non-governmental organizations and other actors of civil society to promote and protect the rights of women workers, to take action to remove structural and legal barriers as well as stereotypic attitudes towards gender equality at work and to initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value;

16. *Urges* Governments to develop and adequately resource active labour-market policies on full and productive employment and decent work for all, including the full participation of women and men in both rural and urban areas;

17. *Calls upon* Governments to strengthen efforts to protect the rights of, and ensure decent work conditions for, domestic workers, including migrant women, in relation to, inter alia, working hours, conditions and wages, access to health-care services and other social and economic benefits;

18. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and/or review and to fully implement gender-sensitive legislation and policies that reduce, through specifically targeted measures, horizontal and vertical occupational segregation and gender-based wage gaps;

19. *Urges* all Member States to undertake a gender analysis of national labour laws and standards and to establish gender-sensitive policies and guidelines for employment practices, including for transnational corporations, with particular attention to export-processing zones, building in this regard on multilateral instruments, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of

Discrimination against Women[14] and conventions of the International Labour Organization;

20. *Stresses* the importance of developing national strategies for the promotion of sustainable and productive entrepreneurial activities, and encourages Governments to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by giving them equal access to financial instruments on affordable terms, providing them with training and advisory services in business, administration, and information and communications technology, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed by financial institutions;

21. *Urges* all Member States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women with regard to their access to all types of financial services and products, including bank loans, bank accounts, mortgages and other forms of financial credit, regardless of their economic and social status, to support women's access to legal assistance and to encourage the financial sector to mainstream gender perspectives in their policies and programmes;

22. *Recognizes* the role of microfinance, including microcredit, in the eradication of poverty, the empowerment of women and the generation of employment, notes in this regard the importance of sound national financial systems, and encourages the strengthening of existing and emerging microcredit institutions and their capacities, including through the support of international financial institutions;

23. *Urges* Governments to ensure that microfinance programmes focus on developing savings products that are safe, convenient and accessible to women and support women's efforts to retain control over their savings;

24. *Urges* all Governments to eliminate discrimination against women in the field of education and ensure their equal access to all levels of education;

25. *Urges* Member States to adopt and review legislation and policies to ensure women's equal access to and control over land, housing and other property, including through inheritance, land reform programmes and land markets, and to take measures to implement those laws and policies;

26. *Urges* Governments to take measures to facilitate equitable access to land and property rights by providing training designed to make the judicial, legislative and administrative system more responsive to gender equality issues, to provide legal aid for women seeking to claim their rights, to support the efforts of women's groups and networks and to carry out awareness campaigns to draw attention to the need for women's equal rights to land and property;

27. *Recognizes* the need to empower women, particularly poor women, economically and politically, and in this regard encourages Governments, with the support of their development partners, to invest in appropriate infrastructure and other projects, including the provision of water and sanitation to rural areas and urban slums to increase health and well-being, relieve the workloads of women and

[14] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

girls and release their time and energy for other productive activities, including entrepreneurship;

28. *Also recognizes* the role of agriculture in development, and stresses the importance of reviewing agricultural policies and strategies to ensure that women's critical role in food security is recognized and addressed as an integral part of both short- and long-term responses to the food crisis;

29. *Recognizes* the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, and their traditional knowledge, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty;

30. *Expresses its concern* at the overall expansion and feminization of the HIV and AIDS pandemic and the fact that women and girls bear a disproportionate share of the burden imposed by HIV and AIDS, that they are more easily infected, that they play a key role in care and that they have become more vulnerable to violence, stigmatization and discrimination, poverty and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of HIV and AIDS, and taking into account that the 2010 deadline was not met, calls upon Governments and the international community to intensify efforts towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV prevention programmes, treatment, care and support and of having halted and begun to reverse the spread of HIV and AIDS by 2015;

31. *Reaffirms* the commitment to achieve universal access to reproductive health by 2015, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development,[15] by integrating this goal into strategies to attain the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[5] aimed at reducing maternal mortality, improving maternal health, reducing child mortality, promoting gender equality, combating HIV and AIDS and eradicating poverty;

32. *Expresses deep concern* that maternal health remains one area constrained by some of the largest health inequities in the world, and over the uneven progress in improving child and maternal health, and in this context calls upon States to renew their commitment to preventing and eliminating child and maternal mortality and morbidity;

33. *Recognizes* that there is a need for all donors to maintain and deliver on their existing bilateral and multilateral official development assistance commitments and targets, and that the full implementation of those commitments will substantially boost resources available to push forward the international development agenda;

34. *Also recognizes* the need to strengthen the capacity of Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into policies and decision-making, and encourages all Governments, international organizations, including the United Nations system, and other relevant stakeholders to assist and support the efforts of developing countries to integrate a gender perspective into all aspects of policymaking, including through the provision of technical assistance and financial resources;

35. *Encourages* the international community, the United Nations system, the private sector and civil society to continue to provide the necessary financial

[15] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18).

resources to assist Governments in their efforts to meet the development targets and benchmarks agreed upon at the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women, the International Conference on Population and Development, the Millennium Summit, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the twenty-third and twenty-fourth special sessions of the General Assembly and other relevant United Nations conferences and summits;

36. *Urges* multilateral donors, and invites international financial institutions, within their respective mandates, and regional development banks to review and implement policies that support national efforts to ensure that a higher proportion of resources reaches women, in particular in rural and remote areas;

37. *Stresses* the importance of improving and systematizing the collection, analysis and dissemination of data disaggregated by sex and age, and of developing gender-sensitive indicators to support policymaking and national systems for monitoring and reporting on progress and impact, and in that regard encourages developed countries and relevant entities of the United Nations to provide support and assistance to developing countries, upon their request, with respect to establishing, developing and strengthening their databases and information systems;

38. *Calls upon* all organizations of the United Nations system, within their organizational mandates, to mainstream a gender perspective and to pursue gender equality in their country programmes, planning instruments and sector-wide programmes and to articulate specific country-level goals and targets in this domain, in accordance with national development strategies, and calls upon the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women to work with United Nations country teams in helping Member States, at their request, to integrate a gender perspective into national development policies and strategies, in accordance with their national priorities;

39. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations development system, within their organizational mandates, to further improve their institutional accountability mechanisms and to include intergovernmentally agreed gender-equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including on integrating a gender perspective into national development strategies;

41. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues" the sub-item entitled "Women in development".

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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 21
Globalization and interdependence

Argentina:* draft resolution

Culture and development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, 51/179 of 16 December 1996, 52/197 of 18 December 1997, 53/184 of 15 December 1998, 55/192 of 20 December 2000, 57/249 of 20 December 2002, and 65/166 of 20 December 2010, concerning culture and development,

Recalling also the adoption by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity[1] and the Action Plan for its implementation,[2] on 2 November 2001, and the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions,[3] as well as other international conventions of that Organization that acknowledge the important role of cultural diversity for social and economic development,

Recognizing that culture is an essential component of human development, represents a source of identity, innovation and creativity for the individual and the community and is an important factor in social inclusion and poverty eradication, providing for economic growth and ownership of development processes,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex I.

[3] Ibid., *Thirty-third Session, Paris, 3-21 October 2005*, vol. 1 and corrigenda, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 41.

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Acknowledging that cultural diversity is a source of enrichment for humankind and an important contributor to the sustainable development of local communities, peoples and nations, empowering them to play an active and unique role in development initiatives,

Recalling the importance of the promotion of national cultures, artistic creation in all its forms and international and regional cultural cooperation, and reaffirming in this regard the relevance of strengthening national, regional and international aid mechanisms for cultural action and artistic creation,

Recognizing the linkages between cultural and biological diversity and the positive contribution of local and indigenous traditional knowledge in addressing environmental challenges in a sustainable manner,

Noting with satisfaction that, in its resolution 65/1 of 22 September 2010, entitled "Keeping the promise: united to achieve the Millennium Development Goals", the General Assembly emphasized the importance of culture for development and its contribution to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and, in that respect, encouraged international cooperation in the cultural field, aimed at achieving development objectives,

Taking note with satisfaction of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[4] and in this regard acknowledging with appreciation the work undertaken by United Nations agencies to optimize the contributions of culture to sustainable development, and also taking note with satisfaction of the positive assessment regarding the convening of a United Nations conference on culture and development,

1. *Emphasizes* the important contribution of culture for the achievement of sustainable development and of national development objectives and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

2. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system and relevant non-governmental organizations:

(a) To raise public awareness of the importance of cultural diversity for sustainable development, promoting its positive value through education and media tools;

(b) To ensure a more visible and effective integration and mainstreaming of culture into social and economic development policies and strategies at all levels;

(c) To promote capacity-building, where appropriate, at all levels for the development of a dynamic cultural and creative sector, in particular by encouraging creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship, supporting the development of cultural institutions and cultural industries, providing technical and vocational training for culture professionals and increasing employment opportunities in the cultural and creative sector for sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and development, while noting the role of traditional financing and innovative financing mechanisms, and recognizing that such mechanisms should be voluntary and should supplement and not substitute for traditional sources of finance, public-private partnerships or any other collaborative arrangements in furthering these objectives;

[4] A/66/187.

(d) To actively support the emergence of local markets for cultural goods and services and to facilitate the effective and licit access of such goods and services to international markets, taking into account the expanding range of cultural production and consumption and, for States parties to it, the provisions of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions;[5]

(e) To preserve and maintain local and indigenous traditional knowledge and community practices of environmental management, which are valuable examples of culture as a vehicle for environmental sustainability and sustainable development, and to foster synergies between modern science and technology and local and indigenous knowledge, practices and innovation;

(f) To promote global awareness of the linkages between cultural and biological diversity, including through the protection and encouragement of the customary use of biological resources, in accordance with traditional cultural practices, as a key element of a comprehensive approach to sustainable development;

(g) To support national legal frameworks and policies for the protection and preservation of cultural heritage and cultural property,[5] the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property and the return of cultural property,[6] in accordance with national legislation and applicable international legal frameworks, including by promoting international cooperation to prevent the misappropriation of cultural heritage and products, recognizing the importance of intellectual property rights in sustaining those involved in cultural creativity;

3. *Encourages* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant non-governmental organizations and all relevant stakeholders to enhance international cooperation in supporting the efforts of developing countries for the development and consolidation of cultural industries, cultural tourism and culture-related microenterprises and to assist those countries in developing the necessary infrastructure and skills, as well as in mastering information and communications technologies and gaining access to new technologies on mutually agreed terms;

4. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to assist Member States, upon their request, in developing their national capacities to assess how best to optimize the contribution of culture to development, including through information-sharing, exchange of best practices, data collection, research and study, and the use of appropriate evaluation indicators, in accordance with their national priorities and taking into account relevant General Assembly resolutions;

5. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies to continue to assess the contribution of culture to the achievement of sustainable development through the compilation of quantitative data, including indicators and statistics, with a view to

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[5] As defined in article 1 of the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 823, No. 11806).

[6] In line with the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property.

informing development policies and such relevant reports as the *Human Development Report*;

6. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in conjunction, as appropriate, with other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions, to continue to provide support and to facilitate financing, as appropriate, upon request, to developing countries, in particular with regard to national capacity-building for the implementation of applicable international cultural conventions, taking into account the relevant General Assembly resolutions and the Millennium Development Goals;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations country teams continue to further integrate and mainstream culture into their programming exercises, in particular United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks, in consultation with relevant national authorities, when assisting countries in the pursuit of their development objectives;

8. *Encourages* Member States, organizations of the United Nations, intergovernmental bodies, relevant non-governmental organizations, major groups and all relevant stakeholders to take into consideration the contribution of culture to the achievement of sustainable development in the context of the upcoming United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in May 2012;

9. *Decides* to convene, in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, a United Nations conference at the highest possible level, before the review in 2015 of the Millennium Development Goals with the aim of taking stock of the contribution of culture to the achievement of development and formulating a consolidated approach to culture and development;

10. *Encourages* Member States to adequately reflect the contribution of culture to the achievement of development in the results of the review in 2015 of the Millennium Development Goals, and in global development policies after 2015;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence", a sub-item entitled "Culture and development".

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 22 (b)
Groups of countries in special situations: specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

Argentina:* draft resolution

Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/201 of 23 December 2003, 60/208 of 22 December 2005, 61/212 of 20 December 2006, 62/204 of 19 December 2007, 63/228 of 19 December 2008, 64/214 of 21 December 2009 and 65/172 of 20 December 2010,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1]

Recalling further the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[2]

Recalling the Almaty Declaration[3] and the Almaty Programme of Action: Addressing the Special Needs of Landlocked Developing Countries within a New

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 65/1.

[3] *Report of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation, Almaty, Kazakhstan, 28 and 29 August 2003* (A/CONF.202/3), annex II.

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Global Framework for Transit Transport Cooperation for Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries,[4]

Recalling also its resolution 63/2 of 3 October 2008, by which it adopted the Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,

Taking note of the Ezulwini Declaration adopted at the Third Meeting of Trade Ministers of Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Ezulwini, Swaziland, on 21 and 22 October 2009,[5]

Taking note also of the communiqué of the Tenth Annual Ministerial Meeting of Landlocked Developing Countries, held at United Nations Headquarters on 23 September 2011,

Recognizing that the lack of territorial access to the sea, aggravated by remoteness from world markets, and prohibitive transit costs and risks continue to impose serious constraints on export earnings, private capital inflow and domestic resource mobilization of landlocked developing countries and therefore adversely affect their overall growth and socio-economic development,

Expressing concern that inadequate transport, telecommunications and energy infrastructure remains a major obstacle to trade and inhibits growth in landlocked developing countries,

Expressing support to those landlocked developing countries that are emerging from conflict, with a view to enabling them to rehabilitate and reconstruct, as appropriate, political, social and economic infrastructure and to assisting them in achieving their development priorities in accordance with the goals and targets of the Almaty Programme of Action,

Recognizing that the primary responsibility for establishing effective transit systems rests with landlocked and transit developing countries,

Taking note of the Ulaanbaatar Declaration[6] as an outcome of the High-level Asia-Pacific Policy Dialogue on the Implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and other Development Gaps Faced by the Landlocked Developing Countries, organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific in collaboration with the Government of Mongolia, and held from 12 to 14 April 2011 in Ulaanbaatar,

Reaffirming that the Almaty Programme of Action constitutes a fundamental framework for genuine partnerships between landlocked and transit developing countries and their development partners at the national, bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[7] on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;[4]

[4] Ibid., annex I.

[5] A/64/856, annex.

[6] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 19* (E/2011/39), chap. IV, resolution 67/1.

[7] A/66/205.

2. *Reaffirms* the right of access of landlocked countries to and from the sea and freedom of transit through the territory of transit countries by all means of transport, in accordance with the applicable rules of international law;

3. *Also reaffirms* that transit countries, in the exercise of their full sovereignty over their territory, have the right to take all measures necessary to ensure that the rights and facilities provided for landlocked countries in no way infringe upon their legitimate interests;

4. *Invites* transit and landlocked developing countries to look into the possibility of following, as appropriate, a standard, universal transit fee structure in line with the existing transit fees, in any region of the world, to avoid double standards with a view to creating efficient transit transport systems, in accordance with the Almaty Programme of Action;

5. *Calls upon* landlocked and transit developing countries to take all appropriate measures, as set out in the Declaration of the high-level meeting of the sixty-third session of the General Assembly on the midterm review of the Almaty Programme of Action,[8] to speed up the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, and calls upon landlocked developing countries to take greater ownership of the Almaty Programme of Action by further mainstreaming it into their national development strategies;

6. *Calls upon* development partners and multilateral and regional financial and development institutions to provide landlocked and transit developing countries with appropriate, substantial and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance, particularly in the form of grants or concessionary loans, for the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

7. *Reaffirms its full commitment* to urgently address the special development needs of and the challenges faced by landlocked and transit developing countries through the full, timely and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action, as contained in the Declaration on the midterm review;

8. *Acknowledges* that landlocked and transit developing countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America have strengthened their policy and governance reform efforts and that development partners, including international financial and development institutions, have paid greater attention to the establishment of efficient transit systems;

9. *Notes with concern* that, despite the progress made in implementing the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action, landlocked developing countries continue to be marginalized in international trade, have enormous capacity-building needs in the area of trade and transport facilitation, and face challenges in their efforts to establish efficient transit transport systems which prevent them from fully harnessing the potential of trade as an engine of sustained economic growth and development to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

10. *Invites* Member States, development partners, organizations of the United Nations system and other relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, to speed up further the implementation of the specific actions in the

[8] See resolution 63/2.

five priorities agreed upon in the Almaty Programme of Action and those contained in the Declaration on the midterm review, in a better-coordinated manner, in particular for the construction, maintenance and improvement of their transport, storage and other transit-related facilities, including alternative routes, completion of missing links and improved communications and energy infrastructure, so as to enhance intraregional connectivity, and strengthening of their analytical capacities in order to develop and implement coherent and comprehensive transport policies to support the transit corridors needed to facilitate trade;

11. *Expresses concern* that the economic growth and social well-being of landlocked developing countries remain highly vulnerable to external shocks and to the multiple challenges faced by the international community, and invites the international community to assist landlocked developing countries in strengthening their resilience and in protecting the advances made towards the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action;

12. *Encourages* the relevant international organizations, including the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and the United Nations regional commissions, as well as relevant research institutions and other international organizations, to assist the landlocked developing countries, as appropriate, in undertaking research on the vulnerability of landlocked developing countries to external shocks and in developing a set of vulnerability indicators that can be used for early warning purposes;

13. *Underlines* the importance of international trade and trade facilitation as one of the priorities of the Almaty Programme of Action, notes that the ongoing negotiations of the World Trade Organization on trade facilitation are particularly important for landlocked developing countries to gain a more efficient flow of goods and services as well as improved international competitiveness resulting from lower transaction costs, and calls upon the international community to ensure that the agreement on trade facilitation in the final outcome of the Doha Round fulfils the objective of lowering transaction costs by, inter alia, reducing transport time and enhancing certainty in transborder trade;

14. *Calls upon* development partners to effectively implement and increase their support towards the Aid for Trade initiative, giving adequate consideration to the special needs and requirements of landlocked developing countries, including capacity-building for the formulation of trade policies, participation in trade negotiations and implementation of trade facilitation measures, as well as strategically strengthening their productive capacities to promote the diversification of their export products, including the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, with a view to increasing the competitiveness of the products of landlocked developing countries in export markets;

15. *Recognizes* that the economies of many landlocked developing countries are still reliant on a few export commodities, which often have low value addition, and encourages the international community to enhance efforts to support landlocked developing countries in diversifying their economic base, to encourage, on mutually agreed terms, the transfer of technologies related to transit transport systems, including information and communications technology, and to enhance

value addition to their exports through the development of their productive capacities;

16. *Encourages* the further strengthening of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation, as well as cooperation among subregional and regional organizations, in support of the efforts of landlocked and transit developing countries towards achieving the full and effective implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action;

17. *Underlines* the prominent role that foreign direct investment plays in accelerating development and poverty reduction through employment, the transfer of managerial and technological know-how and non-debt-creating flows of capital, recognizes the considerable role and potential of private-sector involvement in infrastructure development for transport, telecommunications and utilities for landlocked developing countries, and in this regard encourages capital exporting countries to adopt and implement economic, financial and legal incentives to encourage foreign direct investment flows to landlocked developing countries and calls upon landlocked developing countries to promote an enabling environment to attract foreign direct investment and private-sector involvement;

18. *Recognizes* that broader and more effective cooperation among landlocked developing countries and between landlocked and transit developing countries is necessary to ensure a harmonized approach to the design, implementation and monitoring of trade and transport facilitation policy reforms across borders, and in this regard encourages landlocked and transit developing countries to ratify and effectively implement, as appropriate, international conventions and agreements and regional and subregional agreements on transport and trade facilitation;

19. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, and invites other international organizations, including the World Bank, the regional development banks, the World Customs Organization, the World Trade Organization, regional economic integration organizations and other relevant regional and subregional organizations, to further integrate the Almaty Programme of Action into their relevant programmes of work, taking full account of the Declaration on the midterm review, and encourages them to continue, as appropriate, within their respective mandates, their support to landlocked and transit developing countries, through, inter alia, well-coordinated and coherent technical assistance programmes in transit transport and trade facilitation;

20. *Welcomes* the efforts made by development partners and the United Nations system, including the regional commissions, in providing infrastructure development and connectivity and the integration of regional rail and road networks and in strengthening the legal frameworks of landlocked and transit developing countries, calls upon these organizations to continue providing their support in establishing and implementing supportive legal frameworks, and in this regard welcomes the ongoing efforts made by the Office of the High Representative and the Economic Commission for Africa, in cooperation with the African Union Commission and other relevant international and regional organizations, in assisting the elaboration of the intergovernmental agreement on the Trans-African Highway;

21. *Urges* landlocked developing countries to sign and ratify, at their earliest convenience, the multilateral agreement on the establishment of the international

think tank for the landlocked developing countries in order to bring the think tank to full operation, and invites the Office of the High Representative and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, Member States, relevant international and regional organizations and development partners to support the think tank so that it can undertake its role;

22. *Decides* to hold a comprehensive ten-year review conference of the Almaty Programme of Action in 2013, in accordance with paragraph 49 of the Almaty Programme of Action and paragraph 32 of the Declaration on the midterm review,[8] preceded, where necessary, by regional and global as well as thematic preparations in a most effective, well-structured and broad participatory manner, underlines that intergovernmental mechanisms at the global and regional levels, including those of the United Nations regional commissions, as well as relevant substantive material and statistical data, should be effectively utilized in the review process, recalling that, also in accordance with paragraph 49, the Office of the High Representative is designated as the United Nations system-wide focal point for the preparatory process, and notes that United Nations system organizations, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the regional commissions and relevant international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, should provide necessary support and actively contribute to the preparatory process and the conference itself;

23. *Also decides* to convene, early in 2013, an intergovernmental preparatory committee, which would hold no more than two meetings;

24. *Further decides* to take a decision on the organizational aspects, date and venue of the conference, and on the venue, duration and dates of the preparatory committee meetings, before the end of its sixty-sixth session, and requests the President of the General Assembly to undertake necessary consultations in this regard;

25. *Encourages* donors and the international financial and development institutions, as well as private entities, to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General to support the activities related to the follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Almaty International Ministerial Conference[3] and to support the participation of landlocked developing countries in the preparatory process and the conference itself;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action and on the progress made in the substantive, organizational, and logistical preparations for the comprehensive ten-year review conference;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation".

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Agenda item 23 (a)
Eradication of poverty and other development issues: implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

Argentina:* draft resolution

Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, 56/207 of 21 December 2001, 57/265 and 57/266 of 20 December 2002, 58/222 of 23 December 2003, 59/247 of 22 December 2004, 60/209 of 22 December 2005, 61/213 of 20 December 2006, 62/205 of 19 December 2007, 63/230 of 19 December 2008, 64/216 of 21 December 2009 and 65/174 of 20 December 2010,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[1] as well as the international commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2]

Recalling the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020,[3] adopted in May 2011 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries with the objective of graduating half of the least developed countries from the category by the end of the programme period,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

[3] *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9-13 May 2011* (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.II.A.1), chap. II.

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Recalling also its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council and its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009 entitled "Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development",

Recalling further its resolution 57/265 on the establishment of the World Solidarity Fund,

Welcoming the poverty-related discussions in the annual ministerial reviews held by the Economic and Social Council, which play an important supporting role in the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017),

Noting with appreciation the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council on creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development,[4] and also Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/37 of 28 July 2011 entitled "Recovering from the world financial and economic crisis: a Global Jobs Pact",

Recalling the International Conference on Financing for Development and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[5]

Recalling also the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development[6] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[7]

Underlining the fact that, in the face of the current multiple, interrelated global crises and challenges, such as the ongoing financial and economic crisis, the food crisis, volatile energy and commodity prices and climate change, cooperation and increased commitment by all relevant partners, including the public sector, the private sector and civil society, are needed more than ever, and recognizing in this context the urgent need to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing concern that while there has been progress in reducing poverty in some regions, this progress has been uneven and the number of people living in poverty in some countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority of the most affected groups, especially in the least developed countries and particularly in sub-Saharan Africa,

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[4] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/61/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 50.

[5] Resolution 63/239, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[7] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Recognizing that rates of economic growth vary among countries and that these differences must be addressed by, among other actions, promoting pro-poor growth and social protection,

Concerned at the global nature of poverty and inequality, and underlining the fact that the eradication of poverty and hunger is an ethical, social, political and economic imperative of humankind,

Reaffirming that eradicating poverty is one of the greatest global challenges facing the world today, particularly in Africa and in least developed countries, and underlining the importance of accelerating sustainable broad-based and inclusive economic growth, including full, productive employment generation and decent work,

Recognizing that mobilizing financial resources for development at the national and international levels and the effective use of those resources are central to a global partnership for development in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing also the contributions of South-South and triangular cooperation to the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and to pursue sustainable development,

Acknowledging that good governance at the national and international levels and sustained and inclusive economic growth, supported by full employment and decent work, rising productivity and a favourable environment, including public and private investment and entrepreneurship, are necessary to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and realize a rise in living standards, and that corporate social responsibility initiatives play an important role in maximizing the impact of public and private investment,

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the Heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling that the theme of the 2012 annual ministerial review to be held by the Economic and Social Council will be "Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017), under the theme "Full employment and decent work for all";[8]

2. *Reaffirms* that the objective of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) is to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the follow-up to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, relating to the eradication of poverty and to coordinate international support to that end;

[8] A/66/221.

3. *Also reaffirms* that each country must take primary responsibility for its own development and that the role of national policies and strategies cannot be overemphasized in the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and recognizes that national efforts should be complemented by concrete, effective and supportive international programmes, measures and policies aimed at expanding the development opportunities of developing countries, while taking into account national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership, strategies and sovereignty;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to address the root causes of extreme poverty and hunger;

5. *Emphasizes* the need to accord the highest priority to poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda, while stressing the importance of addressing the causes and challenges of poverty through integrated, coordinated and coherent strategies at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels;

6. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen the leadership role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international cooperation for development, which is critical for the eradication of poverty;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to give priority to the eradication of poverty, and calls upon donor countries to support the national efforts of developing countries in this regard, through adequate, predictable financial resources on a bilateral and multilateral basis;

8. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring, at the national, intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, coherent, comprehensive and integrated activities for the eradication of poverty in accordance with the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

9. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, with full respect for fundamental principles and rights at work under conditions of equity, equality, security and dignity, and also reaffirms that macroeconomic policies should, inter alia, support employment creation, taking fully into account the social and environmental impact and dimensions of globalization, and that these concepts are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore a priority objective of international cooperation;

10. *Emphasizes* that education and training are among the critical factors in empowering those living in poverty, while recognizing the complexity of the challenge of poverty eradication, and in this regard recognizes the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in particular in contributing to international advocacy for eradicating poverty by, inter alia, elaborating pedagogical tools for grass-roots organizations and policymakers;

11. *Recognizes* the role of other specialized agencies and United Nations funds and programmes, including the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme, in contributing to international advocacy for eradicating poverty, including through education and training;

12. *Recognizes* the impact of the food crisis upon poverty, hunger and food security, and encourages the international community to enhance international

cooperation in support of agricultural and rural development and food production in developing countries, particularly in least developed countries;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to fulfil all official development assistance commitments, including the commitments made by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015, and to reach the level of at least 0.5 per cent of gross national product for development assistance, as urgently as possible, taking into account the fact that the 2010 deadline was not met, as well as a target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to least developed countries;

14. *Notes with concern* the lack of progress in the operationalization of the World Solidarity Fund established by the General Assembly and invites Member States, in particular donor countries, international organizations, the private sector, relevant institutions, foundations and individuals to contribute to fulfilling the financial requirements of the Fund, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his report on the implementation of the present resolution an annual progress report on the measures taken for the operationalization of the Fund;

15. *Recognizes* that sustained and inclusive economic growth is essential for eradicating poverty and hunger, in particular in developing countries, and stresses that national efforts in this regard should be complemented by an enabling international environment and by ensuring greater coherence among macroeconomic, trade and social policies at all levels;

16. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their ambitious efforts to strive for more inclusive, equitable, balanced, stable and development-oriented sustainable socio-economic approaches to overcoming poverty and inequality;

17. *Invites* all stakeholders, including Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to share good practices of programmes and policies which address inequalities in favour of those living in extreme poverty, and good practices which promote their active participation in the design and implementation of such programmes and policies, with the aim of accelerating progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals and informing the discussions on the way forward after 2015, and requests the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution a compilation of such good practices;

18. *Reiterates its call* to the relevant organizations of the United Nations system to consider activities to implement the Second Decade, in consultation with Member States and other relevant stakeholders;

19. *Recalls* the inter-agency system-wide plan of action for poverty eradication involving more than twenty-one agencies, funds, programmes and regional commissions, invites Member States to continue to support the plan and related efforts to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all, and calls for strengthening policy coherence and promoting stronger inter-agency collaboration to enhance the implementation of the plan of action for the Second Decade;

20. *Reaffirms* the need to give the highest priority to its consideration of the question of poverty eradication, and in that regard reiterates its decision, in

resolution 63/230, as a contribution to the Second Decade, to convene, at its sixty-eighth session, a meeting of the General Assembly at the highest appropriate political level centred on the review process devoted to the theme relating to the issue of poverty eradication, and stresses that the meeting and the preparatory activities should be carried out within the budget level proposed by the Secretary-General for the biennium 2012-2013 and should be organized in the most effective and efficient manner;

21. *Notes with concern* the continuing high levels of unemployment and underemployment, particularly among young people, as a consequence of the global financial and economic crisis, recognizes that decent work remains one of the best routes out of poverty, and in this regard invites donor countries, multilateral organizations and other development partners to continue to assist Member States, in particular developing countries, in adopting policies consistent with the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session, as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development;

22. *Urges* Member States to address the global challenge of youth unemployment, and calls for the development of a global strategy against youth unemployment;

23. *Urges* the international community, including the United Nations system, to implement the outcome documents relating to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

24. *Also urges* the international community, including the United Nations system, to implement the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development[9] in support of the objectives of the Second Decade;

25. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates and resources, to support Member States, at their request, in strengthening their macroeconomic policy capacity and national development strategies so as to contribute to achieving the objectives of the Second Decade;

26. *Encourages* greater inter-agency convergence and collaboration within the United Nations system in sharing knowledge, promoting policy dialogue, facilitating synergies, mobilizing funds, providing technical assistance in the key policy areas underlying the decent work agenda and strengthening system-wide policy coherence on employment issues, including by avoiding duplication of effort;

27. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session, under the item entitled "Eradication of poverty and other development issues", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017)", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

[9] Resolution 63/303, annex.

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Agenda item 21
Globalization and interdependence

Argentina, Austria, Bahamas, Cyprus, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovenia, South Africa and Switzerland: draft resolution

Promoting the efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/2 of 26 April 2011,

Recalling also its resolutions 59/55 of 2 December 2004 and 60/34 of 30 November 2005 and its previous resolutions on public administration and development,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1]

Emphasizing the need to improve the efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration,

Emphasizing also that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Stressing the need for capacity-building as a tool to promote development and welcoming the cooperation of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions with the United Nations in this regard,

1. *Recognizes* that supreme audit institutions can accomplish their tasks objectively and effectively only if they are independent of the audited entity and are protected against outside influence;

2. *Also recognizes* the important role of supreme audit institutions in promoting the efficiency, transparency and accountability of public administration,

[1] See resolution 55/2.

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which is conducive to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions in promoting greater transparency, accountability and efficient and effective receipt and use of public resources for the benefit of citizens and of the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts of 1977[2] and the Mexico Declaration of Supreme Audit Institutions Independence of 2007;[3]

4. *Calls upon* Member States to apply the principles set out in the Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts of 1977 and the Mexico Declaration of Supreme Audit Institutions Independence of 2007;

5. *Encourages* Member States and relevant United Nations institutions to continue and intensify their cooperation, including in capacity-building, with the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions in order to promote good governance by ensuring efficiency, transparency and accountability through strengthened supreme audit institutions.

[2] See *Lima Declaration of Guidelines on Auditing Precepts*, adopted by the Ninth Congress of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions, Lima, 17-26 October 1977.

[3] See *Mexico Declaration on Supreme Audit Institutions Independence*, adopted by the Nineteenth Congress of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions, Mexico City, 5-10 November 2007.

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 25
Agriculture development and food security

Argentina:* draft resolution

Agriculture development and food security

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,[1] particularly the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[2] Agenda 21,[3] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[4] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[5] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[6] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[7] the 2005 World Summit Outcome[8] and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,[9] the outcome document of the High-

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

[2] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[8] See resolution 60/1.

[9] Resolution 63/239, annex.

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level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals[10] and the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020, as well as its resolutions 64/224 of 21 December 2009 and 65/178 of 20 December 2010,

Recalling further the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and Plan of Action of the World Food Summit,[11] the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,[12] including the goal of achieving food security for all through an ongoing effort to eradicate hunger in all countries, with an immediate view to reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015, as well as the commitment to achieving, in particular, Millennium Development Goal 1 and the goals set out in paragraph 19 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[13]

Reiterating that the multiple and complex causes of the global food crisis in developing countries and its consequences for food security and nutrition require a comprehensive and coordinated response in the short, medium and long terms by national Governments and the international community, and remaining concerned that volatile food prices pose a serious challenge to the fight against poverty and hunger and to the efforts of developing countries to attain food security and nutrition and to achieve the objective of reducing by half the number of undernourished people by no later than 2015, as well as other internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Expressing deep concern that many developing countries have become net food importers due, inter alia, to the decrease in international cooperation and agricultural investment and the maintenance of agricultural subsidies in developed countries, which have a negative impact on the agricultural production of developing countries, and, in this regard, emphasizing the need to maximize the benefits and minimize the cost of international trade liberalization,

Recognizing the importance of an enabling international and national environment to increase and sustain investment in the agriculture sector of developing countries and to create a more level playing field in agriculture through greater market access, a substantial reduction in trade-distorting domestic support and the parallel elimination of all forms of export subsidies and disciplines on all export measures with equivalent effect in accordance with the mandate from the Doha Work Programme of the World Trade Organization,[14]

Recognizing also that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and stressing that integrated and sustainable agriculture and rural development approaches are therefore essential to achieving enhanced food security in an environmentally sustainable way,

Recognizing further the importance and positive role of smallholder farmers, including women, cooperatives and indigenous and local communities in developing

[10] See resolution 65/1.

[11] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[12] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10-13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[13] See resolution 55/2.

[14] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

countries, and their knowledge and practices, in the preservation, conservation and sustainable use of traditional crops and biodiversity for present and future generations as an important contribution to the achievement of food security, as well as in the implementation of development goals in such fields as employment policy, social integration, regional and rural development, agriculture and environmental protection,

Reaffirming the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities,

Stressing the importance of the preservation of the natural resource base for food security,

Noting with appreciation the work undertaken by relevant international bodies and organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, on agricultural development and on enhancing food security and nutrition,

Welcoming the outcome of the thirty-seventh session of the Committee on World Food Security, held in Rome from 17 to 22 October 2011, recognizing that a sense of urgency and a commitment to solving the global food crisis have served as catalysts for strengthening international coordination and governance for food security, through the Global Partnership for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, of which the Committee on World Food Security is a central component, and reiterating that it is essential to enhance global governance, building on existing institutions and fostering effective partnerships,

Expressing concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty and hunger surpasses one billion, which is an unacceptable blight on the lives, livelihoods and dignity of many of the world's people, mostly in developing countries, and noting that the effects of long-standing underinvestment in food security, agriculture and rural development have recently been further exacerbated by the food, financial and economic crises, among other factors,

Remaining deeply concerned about the starvation and humanitarian disaster on an unimaginable scale faced by millions of people in the Horn of Africa,

Expressing further concern about the excessive food price volatility, which has a strong impact on food security and nutrition, particularly for poorer people, and has undermined the prospect of developing countries for economic growth and poverty alleviation, including the goal to halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger by 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[15]

2. *Welcomes* the note by the Chair of the Committee on World Food Security on the reform of the Committee and on progress made towards its

[15] A/66/277.

implementation,[16] and urges Member States to strongly support the reform process and the aims and endeavours of the Committee;

3. *Reiterates* the need to adequately and urgently address agriculture development and food security in the context of national, regional and international development policies taking into account the importance of enhancing synergies between agriculture, biodiversity, food security and development policies;

4. *Also reiterates* the importance of developing countries determining their own food security strategies, that food security is a national responsibility and that any plans for addressing food security challenges and the eradication of poverty in relation to food security must be nationally articulated, designed, owned and led and built on consultation with all key stakeholders at the national level, and urges Member States to make food security a high priority and to reflect this in their national programmes and budgets;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of adopting forward-looking economic policies that lead to sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development and which increase employment opportunities, promote agriculture development and reduce poverty;

6. *Remains deeply concerned* by the global food crises and their negative impact on nutrition in the world, especially in countries in the Horn of Africa and other developing countries, and, in this regard, underlines the urgent need for joint efforts by the international community to respond in a coherent and effective manner to this food catastrophe;

7. *Recognizes* that underdevelopment, desertification and land degradation, as well as extreme weather events, have undermined the livelihood, food security and nutrition in countries in the Horn of Africa and other developing countries, and calls for an integrated approach from the international community in the form of immediate and medium- and long-term actions to address food security and nutrition;

8. *Supports* research on food and agriculture, including research to adapt to and mitigate climate change, and access to research results and technologies at the national, regional and international levels;

9. *Stresses* the need to address the root causes of excessive food price volatility, including its structural causes, at all levels, and to manage the risks linked to excessive volatility in agriculture commodity prices and its consequences for food security and nutrition, as well as for smallholder farmers;

10. *Recognizes* the need to design a comprehensive and coordinated response to address the multiple and complex causes of the global food crisis, including the adoption of political, economic, social, financial and technical solutions in the short, medium and long terms by national Governments and the international community, including for mitigating the impact of the high volatility of food prices on developing countries, and also recognizes that the relevant United Nations organizations have an important role to play in this regard;

11. *Urges* Member States and international organizations to pursue policies and strategies that improve the functioning of domestic, regional and international markets and ensure equitable access for all to those markets, especially smallholder

[16] See A/66/76-E/2011/102.

and women farmers in developing countries, notes the importance of non-trade-distorting special measures that are consistent with World Trade Organization rules aimed at creating incentives for smallholder farmers in developing countries to enable them to increase their productivity and to compete on a more equal footing in world food markets, and urges Member States to refrain from taking measures that are inconsistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization and that have adverse impacts on global, regional and national food security;

12. *Stresses* that a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system will promote agriculture and rural development in developing countries and contribute to world food security, and urges national, regional and international strategies to promote the participation of farmers, especially smallholder farmers, including women, in community, domestic, regional and international markets;

13. *Calls upon* Member States and the World Trade Organization to take measures to promote trade policies that would be capable of promoting further trade in agriculture products, identifying the obstacles to trade which have the most serious impact on the world's poor and contributing to supporting small-scale and marginalized producers in developing countries;

14. *Recognizes* the urgency of, and reaffirms its commitment to, reaching an early and successful conclusion of the Doha Round of World Trade Organization negotiations with a balanced, ambitious, comprehensive and development-oriented outcome as a key action to improve food security;

15. *Reaffirms* the need to include prevention and mitigation measures for the poor and smallholder farmers, particularly women in developing countries, appropriate to their national context and circumstances and in accordance with their capacities, especially when excessive volatility in agriculture prices causes access and market disruptions in the short, medium and long term within the context of local, national, regional and international development policies, taking into account World Trade Organization rules and provisions;

16. *Recognizes* the centrality of smallholder farmers, including women and local and indigenous communities in ensuring food security and nutrition and reducing poverty and recognizes also the need to support them;

17. *Notes* the challenges faced by indigenous peoples in the context of food security, and in this regard calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples;

18. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the capacity of smallholder farmers as a strategy to enhance agriculture development and food security by promoting equitable access to land, water, financial resources and technologies in accordance with national legislation, as well as improving smallholder farmers' participation and access to sustainable agriculture value chains and markets;

19. *Underlines* the need for substantial additional investment and better policies in support of smallholder agriculture in order for many of the poorest countries to reach the poverty and hunger targets of the Millennium Development Goals;

20. *Stresses* that increasing the sustainable production and augmenting the availability and quality of food, including through long-term investment, access of

smallholder farmers to markets, credit and inputs, improved land-use planning, crop diversification, commercialization, and development of an adequate rural infrastructure and enhanced market access for developing countries, as well as sound water management, including efficient irrigation, water harvesting and storage, and the development of strong agriculture value chains and investment in rural infrastructure, are critical to accelerating progress in order to achieve Millennium Development Goal 1;

21. *Recognizes* the importance of agricultural investment, including foreign direct investment, through, inter alia, the private sector in enhancing agriculture development and food security as well as the need to promote responsible international investment in agriculture, and therefore calls for all investors to conduct agricultural practices in accordance with national legislation, taking into account national sovereignty over natural resources, environmental sustainability and the importance of promoting the well-being and improving the livelihood of local communities and indigenous peoples, as appropriate;

22. *Encourages* international, regional and national efforts to strengthen the capacity of developing countries, in particular their small-scale producers, in order to enhance the productivity and nutritional quality of food crops and to promote sustainable practices in pre-harvest and post-harvest agricultural activities;

23. *Underlines* the need to achieve food security and nutrition through sustainable agriculture in a manner that addresses the multiplicity of social needs and desires, without jeopardizing options for future generations;

24. *Also underlines* the need to continue to take into account agriculture development and food security as integral parts of the three pillars of sustainable development;

25. *Stresses* the need to continue to strengthen cooperation among the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the World Food Programme and all other relevant entities of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, the international financial institutions and international trade, financial and economic institutions, in accordance with their respective mandates, in order to increase their effectiveness, as well as to strengthen cooperation with non-governmental organizations and the private sector in promoting and strengthening efforts towards agriculture development and food security and nutrition;

26. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee on World Food Security to report, as part of the Committee's report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the reform of, and on progress made towards achieving the vision of, the Committee;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on developments related to issues highlighted in the present resolution and on the progress in the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on Food Security;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Agriculture development and food security", to be allocated to the Second Committee.

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General Assembly

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 21 (c)
Globalization and interdependence: development cooperation with middle-income countries

Argentina:* draft resolution

Development cooperation with middle-income countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling the outcomes of the United Nations major international conferences and summits, including the United Nations Millennium Declaration[1] and the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[2] as well as the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions,

Reaffirming its resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007, entitled "Triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system", in which it recognized that middle-income developing countries still face significant challenges in the area of poverty eradication and that efforts to address those challenges should be supported in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, including through support to the effective development of comprehensive cooperation policies,

Recalling its resolutions 63/223 of 19 December 2008 and 64/208 of 21 December 2009,

Reaffirming that the fundamental characteristics of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system should be, inter alia, their universal, voluntary and grant nature, their neutrality and their multilateralism, as well as their ability to respond to the development needs of programme countries in a flexible manner, and that the operational activities are carried out for the benefit of programme countries, at the request of those countries and in accordance with their own policies and priorities for development,

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] See resolution 60/1.

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Underscoring that there is no "one size fits all" approach to development and that development cooperation by the United Nations development system should be able to respond to the varying development needs of programme countries and should be in alignment with their national development plans and strategies in accordance with its mandates,

Taking note of the outcomes of the international conferences on development cooperation with middle-income countries held in Madrid,[3] El Salvador[4] and Windhoek,[5] and the regional conference on the theme "Increasing the competitiveness of African middle-income countries", held in Cairo,

Recalling all of the principles supported by the United Nations system, including the principles of predictability, universality and progressivity, and reaffirming the importance of providing strategic support to all programme countries, including middle-income and least developed countries, upon request of the recipient Government, in order to address their specific needs,

Noting that national averages based on criteria such as per capita income do not always reflect the actual particularities and development needs of the middle-income countries, and recognizing the significant diversity of middle-income countries,

Recognizing the need to review the classification criteria of the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations for middle-income countries and adapt them to the particular development challenges of all developing countries,

Recalling that, despite notable reductions in extreme poverty, middle-income countries as a group are still home to approximately 64 per cent of the world population that lives in severe poverty,

Recognizing that high levels of income inequality constitute an underlying factor in the vulnerability of middle-income countries and constrain human development in most of those countries and that progress in poverty reduction is often not in tandem with high rates of growth in many middle-income countries,

Recognizing that, despite the achievements and efforts of middle-income countries, a significant number of people are still living in poverty and inequalities remain, and that further investment in social services and economic opportunities, are needed in order to reduce those inequalities,

Stressing that middle-income countries continue to face particular challenges, inter alia, in the creation of jobs for their youth, the diversification of their economies, the development of technologies and access to international markets, and, in this regard, that it is essential that the international community pay due attention to those challenges,

Expressing deep concern that some middle-income countries are highly indebted and, as such, are at risk of severe debt distress, particularly with the onset of the current global financial and economic crisis,

[3] See A/62/71-E/2007/46, annex.

[4] See A/62/483-E/2007/90, annex.

[5] See A/C.2/63/3, annexes I and II.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. *Recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in their efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and, in that regard, underlines the importance of international support, through various forms, that is well aligned with national priorities to address the development needs of middle-income countries;

3. *Acknowledges* the efforts made and successes achieved by many middle-income countries to eradicate poverty and achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, as well as their significant contribution to global and regional development and economic stability;

4. *Recognizes* that middle-income developing countries still face significant challenges in the area of poverty eradication and that efforts to address those challenges should be supported in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, including through support to the effective development of comprehensive cooperation policies;

5. *Reaffirms* the increased importance of South-South cooperation, and in this regard encourages Member States and the funds, programmes, specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system involved to mainstream support to South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation to help developing countries, at their request and with their ownership and leadership, to develop capacities to maximize the benefits and impact of South-South cooperation and triangular cooperation in order to achieve their national goals, with special emphasis on internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

6. *Underlines* the need for sustained efforts towards achieving debt sustainability in middle-income countries in order to avoid a debt crisis, and to that end notes and encourages further efforts by international financial institutions to enhance facilities for them;

7. *Recalls* that development cooperation has the potential to promote intersectoral approaches to policy and programmes and public-private partnerships and to facilitate peer-to-peer engagement, capacity-development and the sharing of experiences and successes within and across regions;

8. *Invites* the international community, including international financial institutions, to further strengthen their support to the development efforts of middle-income countries through targeted technical cooperation, provision of resources, technology transfer and capacity-building, as appropriate, while taking into account their national priorities and development policies;

9. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to further undertake timely, appropriate and targeted measures to address the new and additional challenges that the current economic and financial crisis has imposed on middle-income countries, on a case-by-case basis, based on the specific needs and national priorities of each of those countries;

10. *Notes* that development cooperation between the United Nations system and middle-income countries needs to be strengthened, including by aligning the

[6] A/66/220.

programming of United Nations activities much more closely with national strategies and policies and the specific existing and emerging needs of middle-income countries;

11. *Invites* the United Nations development system, in particular the funds and programmes, and at the regional level, in accordance with their respective mandates, to improve support, as appropriate, to middle-income countries and to improve coordination and exchange of experiences with other international organizations, international financial institutions and regional organizations in this field, as well as to align the programming of its activities more closely with national development strategies;

12. *Stresses* that core resources, because of their untied nature, continue to be the bedrock of the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and, in this regard, notes with concern that the share of core contributions to United Nations funds and programmes has declined in recent years and recognizes the need for organizations to address, on a continuous basis, the imbalance between core and non-core resources;

13. *Decides* to create a specialized unit within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to follow up the implementation of the present resolution and to address the particular development challenges of middle-income countries;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in its provisional agenda, under the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence" a sub-item entitled "Development cooperation with middle-income countries".

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 25
Agriculture development and food security

Azerbaijan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ecuador, Georgia, Nicaragua and Peru: draft resolution

International Year of Quinoa, 2013

The General Assembly,

Noting that quinoa is a natural food high in nutritional value,

Recognizing that Andean indigenous peoples, through their traditional knowledge and practices of living well, in harmony with nature, have maintained, controlled, protected and preserved quinoa in its natural state, including its many varieties and landraces, as food for present and future generations,

Affirming the need to focus world attention on the role that quinoa biodiversity plays, owing to the nutritional value of quinoa, in providing food security and nutrition and eradicating poverty in support of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting on the Millennium Development Goals,[1]

Recalling resolution 15/2011 adopted on 2 July 2011 by the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its thirty-seventh session,[2]

Recalling also the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the Plan of Action of the World Food Summit,[3] the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five year later[4] and the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,[5]

[1] See resolution 65/1.
[2] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, Thirty-seventh Session, Rome, 25 June-2 July 2011* (C 2011/REP).
[3] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13-17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.
[4] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10-13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.
[5] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

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Affirming the need to heighten public awareness of the nutritional, economic, environmental and cultural properties of quinoa,

1. *Decides* to declare 2013 the International Year of Quinoa;

2. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Quinoa, in collaboration with Governments, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research centres and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as well as indigenous peoples' organizations and non-governmental organizations, and invites also the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to keep the General Assembly informed of progress made in this regard;

3. *Recalls* paragraph 2 of resolution 15/2011 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements to secure extrabudgetary funding for the International Year of Quinoa, and invites Member States, civil society organizations and other relevant stakeholders to contribute generously to this endeavour.

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Second Committee
Agenda item 25
Agriculture development and food security

Philippines: draft resolution

International Year of Family Farming, 2014

The General Assembly,

Recalling resolution 16/2011 of 2 July 2011 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[1]

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 65/178 of 20 December 2010, on agriculture development and food security,

Noting the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security,[2] adopted on 18 November 2009, expressing support for the special needs of smallholder farmers,

Affirming that family farming is an important basis for sustainable food production aimed at achieving food security,

Recognizing the important contribution that family farming can play in providing food security and eradicating poverty in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

1. *Decides* to declare 2014 the International Year of Family Farming;

2. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Family Farming, in collaboration with Governments, the United Nations Development Programme, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as well as relevant non-governmental organizations;

[1] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the Conference of FAO, thirty-seventh session, Rome, 25 June-2 July 2011* (C2011/REP).

[2] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

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3. *Encourages* Member States to undertake activities within their respective national development programmes in support of the International Year of Family Farming.

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Sixty-sixth session
Second Committee
Agenda item 16
Information and communications technologies for development

Argentina:* draft resolution

Information and communications technologies for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 56/183 of 21 December 2001, 57/238 of 20 December 2002, 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 59/220 of 22 December 2004, 60/252 of 27 March 2006, 62/182 of 19 December 2007, 63/202 of 19 December 2008, 64/187 of 21 December 2009 and 65/141 of 20 December 2010, Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, 2008/3 of 18 July 2008, 2009/7 of 24 July 2009 and 2010/2 of 19 July 2010 and other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/16 of 26 July 2011 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Noting that cultural diversity is the common heritage of humankind and that the information society should be founded on and stimulate respect for cultural identity, cultural and linguistic diversity, traditions and religions and foster dialogue among cultures and civilizations, and noting also that the promotion, affirmation and preservation of diverse cultural identities and languages as reflected in relevant agreed United Nations documents, including the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[1] will further enrich the information society,

Recalling the Declaration of Principles and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

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10 to 12 December 2003,[3] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[4] and the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society adopted by the Summit at its second phase, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005,[5] and endorsed by the General Assembly,[6]

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,[6]

Recalling further the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals and its outcome document,[7]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,[8]

Noting the establishment of the Broadband Commission for Digital Development at the invitation of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union and the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and taking note of the report of the Commission prepared in cooperation with the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "A 2010 Leadership Imperative: The Future Built on Broadband",[9] which calls for broadband-friendly practice and policies towards the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, to ensure that the potential of broadband connectivity and content are at the service of development,

Recognizing the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in assisting the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of the progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, while at the same time maintaining its original mandate on science and technology for development,

Noting the fourteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, held in Geneva from 23 to 27 May 2011,

Recognizing that, while in recent years progress has been made in access to information and communications technologies, including the steady increase in Internet access to nearly one quarter of the world's population, the expanding penetration of cellular telephony and the availability of multilingual content and Internet addresses, the need remains to reduce the digital divide and to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies, are available to all at affordable cost, and recognizing in this regard that less than 18 per cent of the population in developing countries uses the Internet, compared to more than 60 per cent in developed countries,

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[3] See A/C.2/59/3, annex.
[4] See resolution 59/220.
[5] See A/60/687.
[6] See resolution 60/252.
[7] See resolution 60/1.
[8] See resolution 65/1.
[9] A/65/64-E/2010/12.
[10] Available from www.broadbandcommission.org.

Reaffirming the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies to promote the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and sustainable economic growth,

Expressing concern about the impact of the ongoing world financial and economic crisis on the positive trends in the diffusion of information and communications technology and the investment needed to ensure universal access to information and communications technologies,

Also expressing concern about the growing gap in broadband provision between developed and developing countries, as well as about the new dimensions that the digital divide has taken on, with respect to the quality of available access, and what it can offer users,

Stressing the need to reduce the digital divide, including with regard to such issues as international interconnection charges for Internet use, and to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communications technologies, are available to all,

Acknowledging that the Internet, a central element of the infrastructure of the information society, has evolved from a research and academic facility into a global facility available to the public,

Recognizing that the international management of the Internet should be multilateral, transparent and democratic, with the full involvement of Governments, the private sector, civil society and international organizations, as stated in paragraph 29 of the Tunis Agenda,

Recognizing also the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on various matters, including public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance, in order to foster the sustainability, robustness, security, stability and development of the Internet, as well as its role in building partnerships among different stakeholders so as to help in addressing the various issues of Internet governance, while acknowledging the calls for improvements in its working methods,

Reiterating the significance and urgency of the process towards enhanced cooperation in full consistency with the mandate provided in paragraph 71 of the Tunis Agenda and the need for enhanced cooperation to enable Governments on an equal footing to carry out their roles and responsibilities in respect of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet but not in respect of the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact upon those issues,

Welcoming the efforts undertaken by the host countries in organizing the meetings of the Internet Governance Forum, held in Athens in 2006, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 2007, in Hyderabad, India, in 2008, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, in 2009, in Vilnius in 2010 and in Nairobi in 2011, respectively,

Recognizing the central role of the United Nations system in promoting development, including with respect to enhancing access to information and communications technologies, inter alia, through partnerships with all relevant stakeholders,

Welcoming, in view of the existing gaps in information and communications technologies infrastructure, the Connect Africa summits held in Kigali in 2007 and in Cairo in 2008, the Connect the Commonwealth of Independent States summit held in Minsk in 2009 and the meeting of Commonwealth countries held in Colombo in 2010, which are regional initiatives aimed at mobilizing human, financial and technical resources to accelerate the implementation of the connectivity goals of the World Summit on the Information Society,

1. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies have the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, particularly in the context of globalization, and can foster economic growth, competitiveness, access to information and knowledge, poverty eradication and social inclusion that will help to expedite the integration of all countries, especially developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, into the global economy;

2. *Expresses concern* regarding the digital divide in access to information and communications technologies and broadband connectivity between countries at different levels of development, which affects many economically and socially relevant applications in areas such as government, business, health and education, and further expresses concern with regard to the special challenges faced in the area of broadband connectivity by developing countries, including the least developed countries, small island developing States, landlocked developing countries and middle-income countries;

3. *Acknowledges* that a gender divide exists as part of the digital divide, and encourages all stakeholders to ensure the full participation of women in the information society and women's access to information and communications technologies;

4. *Stresses* that, for the majority of the poor, the development promise of science and technology, including information and communications technologies, remains unfulfilled, and emphasizes the need to effectively harness technology, including information and communications technologies, to bridge the digital divide;

5. *Also stresses* the important role of Governments in the design of public policies and in the provision of public services responsive to national needs and priorities through, inter alia, the effective use of information and communications technologies, including on the basis of a multi-stakeholder approach, to support national development efforts;

6. *Recognizes* that, in addition to financing by the public sector, financing of information and communications technologies infrastructure by the private sector has come to play an important role in many countries and that domestic financing is being augmented by North-South flows and complemented by South-South cooperation;

7. *Also recognizes* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing the new technologies, such as insufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity and issues related to technology ownership, standards and flows, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to provide adequate resources, enhanced capacity-building and technology transfer to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries;

8. *Further recognizes* the immense potential that information and communications technologies have in promoting the transfer of technologies in a wide spectrum of socio-economic activity;

9. *Recognizes* that South-South and triangular cooperation can be useful tools for promoting the development of information and communications technologies;

10. *Encourages* strengthened and continuing cooperation between and among stakeholders to ensure the effective implementation of the outcomes of the Geneva[3] and Tunis[4] phases of the World Summit on the Information Society through, inter alia, the promotion of national, regional and international multi-stakeholder partnerships, including public-private partnerships, and the promotion of national and regional multi-stakeholder thematic platforms, in a joint effort and dialogue with developing countries, development partners and actors in the information and communications technologies sector;

11. *Reaffirms* the role of the General Assembly in the overall review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in 2015, as called for in paragraph 111 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, and further decides to conclude during its sixty-seventh session modalities for the review process;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by Tunisia, host of the second phase of the World Summit on the Information Society in collaboration with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the International Telecommunication Union and other relevant international and regional organizations, for organizing annually the ICT 4 All Forum and technological exhibition as a platform within the framework of the follow-up to the Summit to promote a dynamic business environment for the information and communications technologies sector worldwide;

13. *Encourages* the United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, within their respective mandates, to contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, and emphasizes the need for resources in this regard;

14. *Notes* the organization of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2011 in Geneva from 16 to 20 May 2011;

15. *Recognizes* the urgent need to harness the potential of knowledge and technology, and in this regard encourages the United Nations development system to continue its effort to promote the use of information and communications technologies as a critical enabler of development and a catalyst for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

16. *Also recognizes* the role of the United Nations Group on the Information Society as an inter-agency mechanism of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination designed to coordinate United Nations implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;

17. *Further recognizes* that the Internet governance-related outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, namely the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, are to be pursued by the Secretary-General through two distinct processes, and recognizes that the two processes may be complementary;

18. *Recalls* its decision that the desirability of the continuation of the Internet Governance Forum would be considered again by Member States in the General Assembly in the context of a ten-year review of the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on the Information Society in 2015;

19. *Notes* the report of the Chair of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum, and takes note that in paragraphs 28 and 29 of its resolution 2011/16, the Economic and Social Council decided to extend the mandate of the Working Group until the fifteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in order for it to complete its task in accordance with its mandate and urged the Working Group to submit its recommendations to the Commission at its fifteenth session, which should constitute an input from the Commission to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council;

20. *Stresses* the need for the enhanced participation of all developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in all Internet Governance Forum meetings, and in this regard invites Member States, as well as other stakeholders, to support the participation of Governments and other stakeholders from developing countries in the Forum itself, as well as in the preparatory meetings;

21. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation on public policy issues pertaining to the Internet;[10]

22. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of its resolution 65/141, takes note of the consultations convened by the Secretary-General through the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, including the meeting held in New York on 14 December 2010, and invites the Secretary-General to hold further open and inclusive consultations involving all Member States and other stakeholders with a view to assisting the process towards enhanced cooperation in order to enable Governments on an equal footing to carry out their roles and responsibilities in respect of international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet but not in respect of the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not impact upon those issues, through a balanced participation of all stakeholders, especially developing countries, in their respective roles and responsibilities, as stated in paragraph 35 of the Tunis Agenda, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-seventh session, through the Council, a report on the outcome of those consultations;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Economic and Social Council, a report on the status of the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution, as part of his annual reporting on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the item entitled "Information and communications technologies for development".

[10] A/66/77-E/2011/103.